WEST VIRGINIA BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT COUNCIL

Wednesday, April 15, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m.

The second meeting of the West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council was held in Building 6, Room 6A on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

The following members participated:

Kelley Goes, Chair (via phone)
Lara Ramsburg, Vice-Chair
Jimmy Gianato (via phone)
Dr. Jan Fox
Lee Fisher
Michael Keleman (via phone)
Mike Friloux (via phone)
Kyle Schafer

Additional participants:

Sarah Smith Byron Harris

After a quorum was established, Vice-Chair Ramsburg welcomed the Council and called the meeting to order.

Business

Vice-Chair Ramsburg asked for the approval of the minutes from the March meeting of the Broadband Deployment Council. The Council approved the minutes with no objection.

The next order of business was to summarize action taken by the review committee on the Broadband EOI. It was reported that Kimball and Connected Nation had been selected to partner together in order to meet the requirements of the EOI. Once negotiations are final, it is a desire of the Council to have Kimball act as a project manager and have Connected Nation focus more of their work on compiling information on Recovery Act funding.

Vice-Chair Ramsburg also mentioned that she would be going to Washington, DC on April 29 to receive more information on stimulus funding and that she anticipated an update on broadband for the states and from there we could better ascertain what our role might be.

Lee Fisher asked about a consultant doing broadband work in Mineral County and whether the Council would like to see his plans for the county. Chair Goes noted that

the Council would not interfere in any projects, but she believed the federal government would only ask for one application from each state. It was noted that the Council does not want to stop progress but that local governments and private vendors need to realize that the State has to submit one application, not every town or county.

Jan Fox noted that the Council needs to look to the next generation of broadband; that there needs to be a plan so we aren't investing in out-of-date technologies. Kyle Schafer asked when the consultants would be on the ground and ready to work. Chair Goes stated that they should already be working and that another phone call was scheduled for the following week.

The discussion then led to NTIA It was noted that the number 1 priority was job creation and economic development. Vice-Chair Ramsburg noted that the Council needs to develop a plan that takes into account recent goals and future needs.

Legislative Rules

There was no update.

Legislative Update

It was noted that all bills passed during legislative session were still under review and that a more thorough report would come soon.

Subcommittee Reports

There was no update.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be noticed for May 20, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting location, call-in number and agenda will be provided prior to the meeting.

With no other business, Lee Fisher moved that the Council adjourn and Kyle Schafer seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.